

Reopening of Competition for the 2005 National Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants

On December 8, 2004, President Bush signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, which temporarily expands the number of brownfield sites that are eligible for funding under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) brownfields assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants awarded under section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended.

EPA's Fiscal Year 2005 appropriations may be used by recipients of brownfields grants and loans for eligible and allowable costs at brownfield sites as long as the recipient of a brownfield grant or loan satisfies all of the elements required to qualify as a bona fide prospective purchaser under CERCLA section 101(40) notwithstanding the fact that the property was acquired prior to the enactment of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2001, P.L. 107-118, on January 11, 2002.

EPA is reopening the FY2005 brownfields grant competition to allow entities who are affected by the above-referenced changes to submit and/or resubmit proposals for brownfields funding. To qualify for participation in the reopened competition, applicants must have specific brownfields sites identified, and these sites must now be eligible for EPA funding in FY2005 due to the above-referenced provision of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005. Applications for funding at other sites are not eligible to apply during the reopened competition.

Applicants who submitted proposals by the November 12, 2004, deadline for brownfields assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants and who otherwise satisfied all of the requirements to be eligible to receive brownfields grants or loans, as well as satisfied all of the elements required to qualify as a bona fide prospective purchaser, and were determined by EPA to be prohibited from using brownfield funds at the proposed site(s) because the applicant acquired the brownfield site prior to the January 11, 2002, enactment date, may choose to **resubmit** their proposal for consideration.

An original proposal and/or a request for reconsideration of a proposal that was submitted by the November 12, 2004, deadline **must be received by 6:00 p.m. EST on or before January 14, 2005**, by Environmental Management Support, Inc., Attention: Don West, 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500, Silver Spring, MD 20910, phone 301-589-5318. Applicants must also provide a copy to the EPA Regional Brownfields Coordinator at the addresses shown in *Appendix 1* of the September 2004 Proposal Guidelines.

Applicants should refer to the *Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants*, found at www.epa.gov/brownfields. In addition, on page 5, the first bullet under *Additional Uses/Restrictions of Grant Funds* was revised to implement the language in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005. For more information, please contact your Regional Brownfields Coordinator.